

# Cerebral Palsy

You know the famous British racing driver with historic 103 wins, Lewis Hamilton, right?

Well Lewis' half-brother Nicolas Hamilton is also a race car driver. Except, Nicolas lives with Cerebral Palsy and drives a modified car to suit his needs! He trained under experts focusing on leg strength to become the first driver with a disability to compete in the British Touring Car Championship.

## **The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 defines Cerebral Palsy (CP)**

- As a non-progressive neurological condition affecting body movements and muscle coordination
- Caused by damage to one or more specific areas of the brain
- Usually occurring before, during or shortly after birth

Around 25 lakh people are estimated to live with CP in India. People with CP can have difficulties with sitting, thinking, learning, feeling and communicating.

Children with cerebral palsy often require physical therapy, occupational therapy, and other types of medical interventions to help them develop their skills and reach their full potential.

Communication can be a challenge for people with Cerebral Palsy, but there are many Alternative and Augmentative Communication (AAC) devices and strategies along with assistive technologies that can help persons with CP express themselves and communicate with others.

[International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication](#) has chapters around the world and is a comprehensive website to understand AAC.

They can participate in a wide variety of activities, including sports and other physical activities, with the help of adaptive equipment and/or support from their peers and caregivers.

By providing people with cerebral palsy the care and support they need, we can support them to lead happy and fulfilling lives.

[The Indian Institute of Cerebral Palsy \(IICP\)](#) in Kolkata and [Vidyasagar](#) in Chennai are premier organizations offering comprehensive care for children of all ages and adults with CP.

[Top 10 Indian Ngos for Cerebral Palsy - 2017](#)

Here is the list of [Spastic Societies in India](#)